Repair of breaches in Assam

228. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of breaches of embankment which have been repaired in Assam after last year's devastation due to floods;

(b) the amount of money released to the State Government during the last one year for Brahmputra flood control programmes;

(c) what steps have been taken to control erosion of the River Brahmaputra in the places like Dibrugarh, Nogaun, Marigaun and Palasbari; and

(d) whether there is any danger in places like Marigaun and Palasbari, if so, what steps have been taken to protect the lives and properties of those areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) 354 (Three hundred & Fifty four).

(b) Planning Commission has released Rs. 25 crores for reconstruction and completion of embankments for flood protection in the year 2004-05. An amount of Rs. 9.3 crore was released to take up ongoing critical flood control & anti erosion works.

(c) Water Resources Department of Government of Assam is taking up various schemes in Dibrugarh, Morigaon, Palasbari and Nagaon areas. In addition to that, Brahmaputra Board took up two schemes for tackling "Avulsion of Brahmaputra at Dholla Hatighuli", with estimated cost of Rs. 15.69 crore.

(d) As per the information furnished by Government of Assam, a scheme namely "Protection of Kapurpura area including Bhuragaon town from the erosion of river Brahmaputra" has been taken up by the State Government. As regards Palasbari, a scheme for protection of the Palasbari town was completed by the State Government. However, due to change in river configuration, the State Government has formulated another scheme.